





## INFORMATION.

**BROWN, JONES & CO.**  
AMERICAN AND ITALIAN MARBLE  
HEADSTONES AND COLUMNS  
In Stock.  
Prices moderate. Work Promptly Done.  
Satisfaction Guaranteed.

**A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED,**  
have just received  
Steamers "BENEDI" and "GANGES"  
their first shipment of

## XMAS CONFECTIONERY

Consisting of  
CHOCOLATE CREMES, VANILLA  
PRALINES, SUGARED ALMONDS,  
BURNALMONDS, NOUGAT, JUBES,  
TURKISH DELIGHT, PASTICONS, etc.,  
etc., etc.

## DELICIOUS FRUIT JELLIES:

ASSORTED PINEAPPLE, LIME, DAM-  
SON, GUAVA, RASPBERRY, STRAW-  
BERRY, PLUM, etc.

## CALLARD AND BOWSER'S.

BUTTER, SUGAR, ALMOND ROCK,  
and EVERTON TOFFEE.

## CADBURY'S CHOCOLATES

In great variety.  
CRYSTALLIZED FRUITS, MUSCATELS,  
ALMONDS, and FIGS.

## FANCY BOXES:

A large and varied assortment of  
ARTISTIC DESIGNS.

## XMAS CARDS

ENGLISH, JAPANESE, and CHINESE  
a splendid selection.

## TOM SMITH'S CRACKERS

a large stock well assorted.

## THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

Hongkong, 24th November, 1922. 117

## NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Only communications relating to the news columns  
should be addressed to the Editor.  
Correspondents are requested to forward their names  
and address with communications addressed to the  
Editor, not for publication, but as evidence of good  
faith.  
Orders for extra copies of the Daily Press should be  
sent before 11 a.m. on the day of publication.  
All letters for publication should be written on one  
side of the paper only.  
No anonymous or signed communications that have  
appeared in other papers will be inserted.

## MARRIAGE.

At St. John's Cathedral, Hongkong, on the 28th  
December, 1922, by the Rev. E. J. C. Cobbold,  
Colonial Chaplain, Mr. J. J. C. Cobbold, eldest  
son of Mr. J. J. C. Cobbold, of Sydney, N.S.W., and  
Miss J. J. C. Cobbold, of Sydney, N.S.W., were  
united in Holy Matrimony.

## The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, DECEMBER 29TH, 1922.

The Committee appointed by the Imperial  
Federal League to formulate definite  
proposals which might be submitted to a  
conference of representatives of the various  
parts of the Empire, has made its report.  
It is suggested that in order to secure  
more complete cooperation in maintaining  
and defending the common interests, means  
should be adopted for more intimate  
communication and consultation  
between the great outlying British possessions  
and the Imperial Cabinet, and that  
when the provinces of Australasia and South  
Africa are each united under one Govern-  
ment, as Canada now is, and those three  
dominions are represented in London by a  
member of each Government respectively,  
such representatives should be available for  
consultation with the Cabinet when matters  
of foreign policy affecting the colonies are  
under consideration. In pursuance of this  
idea it is proposed that a Council should be  
formed, including, on the part of the United  
Kingdom, the Indian Empire, and the  
Crown Colonies, the Prime Minister, the  
Secretaries of State for Foreign Affairs,  
War, Colonies, and India, the First Lord of  
the Admiralty, and the Chancellor of the  
Exchequer; and, on the part of the self-  
governing colonies, of representatives of the  
three groups. This Council would deal  
with matters of Imperial defence and would  
supervise the appropriation of any moneys  
provided for that purpose by the common  
contribution of the United Kingdom and  
the colonies. It may be laid down as a  
leading principle, the report says, that as  
all parts of the Empire enjoy the benefits  
of Imperial defence they should contribute to  
its cost.

In commenting upon the report, the  
*Singapore Free Press*, the most vigorous op-

ponent of the military contribution amongst  
the journals of the Eastern Crown Colonies,  
says:—"It seems that if we desire to profit  
by the occasion it will be for those whose  
duty it is to move in the matter to bring  
the case of this Colony before the Fed-  
eration League as an instance of how the  
Federation spirit of loyalty is created,  
and our rightful claims for fair treatment  
ignored, for want of such a Court of ap-  
peal as the proposed Imperial Defence  
Council would afford. It seems to us  
that time and circumstances are fighting  
in our favour, and a very grave respon-  
sibility will rest upon those to whose  
leadership we have a right to look, if they  
do not take full advantage of the  
facilities that now offer for bringing, and  
keeping, before the eyes of the public, the  
claims of the Colony for relief against  
what we hold to be the inequitable and  
unjustifiable basis for Imperial purposes  
that are made, unannounced, upon our  
precious resources, upon grounds whose  
justice we entirely impugn. That such a  
Council as is suggested would be a great step  
in advance of the present system, or want of  
system, in apportioning the burden of Im-  
perial defence, there can be no question, but  
it may be doubted, especially under the con-  
stitution proposed, whether it would afford  
much practical relief to the Crown Colonies.  
These dependencies, it is suggested, should be  
represented on the Council by the Secretary  
of State, not by representatives appointed  
by the Colonies themselves. The point to  
be aimed at, it seems to us, is to secure  
direct representation. If it were considered  
that a representative for each Crown Colony  
would be giving them a greater voice than  
their relative importance deserved, they  
might be divided into groups, Ceylon, Singa-  
pore, and Hongkong constituting one  
group with a single representative for the  
three. The cases of all three colonies in  
this matter are practically the same and the  
representative would therefore be unembar-  
rassed by any conflicting interests.

But whether direct representation were  
secured or not there is no use deluding  
ourselves with false hopes that our burdens  
would be lightened. The most that could  
be expected would be that they might be  
imposed in a less objectionable  
manner. The self-governing colonies already  
provide for the cost of their land forces and  
Australia also provides the cost of a local  
marine force which forms a valuable addition  
to the Imperial navy. The report must in-  
evitably consider that the time must in-  
evitably come, through the rapid development  
of the colonies themselves, when further  
"provision must be made for their defence  
by naval means," and the opinion is ex-  
pressed that it would be only fair that the  
self-governing States should make con-  
tributions towards the cost of those additional  
defensive preparations. Reference is here  
especially made, it will be observed, to the  
self-governing Colonies, but elsewhere the  
Crown Colonies are mentioned and it is ap-  
parently intended to apply to them, as well  
as to the self-governing Colonies, the leading  
principle "that as all parts of the Empire  
enjoy the benefits of Imperial defence, they  
should contribute to its cost."

gapore contemporary had directed its atten-  
tion to this point, which appears to be in  
direct conflict with the position hitherto  
taken up by that paper. In its numerous  
previous articles on the subject our con-  
temporary has drawn a sharp distinction  
between Imperial and local interests and has  
maintained that the Straits should not be  
asked to pay one cent in excess of what was  
required for strictly local defence, disclaim-  
ing on behalf of the Colony all responsibility  
for the protection of the coasts should be  
Singapore for the use of the Navy. Whether  
the Straits do in fact pay more than the  
cost of local defence is a point in dispute  
which it is unnecessary to argue at present,  
what we are concerned with now being the  
question of principle irrespective of the  
amount involved. The contribution of  
any particular colony must necessarily be  
limited by its ability to pay, but given  
the ability to pay, ought a Crown Colony to  
share in the cost of Imperial defence as well  
as providing for its own local defence, or  
should Great Britain be called upon to bear  
the whole cost of Imperial defence?

The *Free Press* has maintained, if we have under-  
stood it aright, the latter. The report of  
the Committee of the Imperial Federation  
League says that the cost should be borne by  
the Empire at large. That is the position which  
we ourselves have maintained so far as the  
big question of principle is concerned. It  
is a conclusion from which we see no  
possible escape in logic or equity.

When, however, we come to consider the  
incidence of the burden under the present  
system we are confronted with what is  
simply gross injustice on the part of the  
home Government, which takes such sums  
as it thinks fit—up to a limit represented  
by the total cost of the land forces, beyond  
which point it has not as yet proposed to  
go, though there is no security that it may  
not at some future time do so—from those  
colonies that can be made to pay, and allows  
to escape in whole or part those that have  
the power of refusal. Thus the West Indian  
Colonies, which possess a measure of repre-  
sentative Government, pay nothing, and  
Mauritius, where the unofficial members are  
in a majority in the Council, was allowed  
to sensibly cut down the amount demanded,  
while in Ceylon, Singapore, and Hongkong  
the full sum asked for was voted by the  
officials against the unanimous voice of the  
unofficials. The three last named colonies  
have therefore a distinct grievance, irrespec-  
tive of whether the sums demanded from  
them as military contributions are too large  
or not, for there is no sound reason why  
they should not have as full control over  
their finances as their sister Crown Colonies.  
Such a Council as that proposed by the Im-  
perial Federation League should have the  
power to issue precepts on each portion of  
the Empire for its *pro rata* contribution,  
from Great Britain itself to the smallest  
outlying dependency. But here comes the  
crux of the matter: how is the *pro rata* con-  
tribution to be determined? The Com-  
mittee of the Federation League says the  
method of raising contributions would prob-  
ably be left at the outset to the choice of  
the individual self-governing States; but  
suggests that future developments may dis-

close a means of raising the necessary con-  
tributions upon some uniform principle  
throughout the Empire, by the allocation  
of this purpose of special sources of revenue,  
or otherwise; and that the several amounts  
should be fixed in the first instance for a  
term of years by a conference, subject to  
periodical revision. The adoption of a uni-  
form principle is what is to be desired, but  
the Crown Colonies, we claim, have a right  
to be adequately represented on the body by  
which that principle is to be applied, as well  
as in the conference which it is suggested  
should in the first instance fix the several  
amounts for a term of years. The Secretary  
of State would not be a satisfactory repre-  
sentative, since he is a member of a Govern-  
ment interested in reducing the contribution  
of England, which can only be done by in-  
creasing that of the Colonies. Neither  
would an ex-Governor command entire con-  
fidence, for they are all imbued with the idea  
that the Crown Colonies should be ruled  
with a rod of iron. What is wanted is some  
man thoroughly independent of Downing  
Street influences, such a man, for instance,  
as Sir THOMAS STURTELL, who knows the  
Colonies and is acquainted with their re-  
sources and conditions. We are afraid,  
however, we will have long to wait before  
the Crown Colonies are asked to appoint a  
representative, but it is important that their  
claims should be urged at the conference  
proposed of representatives of the various  
parts of the Empire, and at all future simi-  
lar conferences of a like kind. It is in con-  
nection with such a movement as this that  
the utility of a Hongkong Association or a local  
branch of the China Association would  
make itself felt.

We regret to have to announce the death  
of Mr. M. A. de Carvalho, an old and much re-  
spected Portuguese resident of this colony,  
who took place last Tuesday at his residence,  
Orizangeur. Mr. Carvalho was for many  
years resident in the firm of Messrs. T. &  
C. and was well known to many of our  
business and social acquaintances. The funeral  
took place yesterday afternoon and was  
attended by a large number of the deceased  
gentleman's friends and relations.

Rather late in the season we have received a  
small collection of Messrs. Raphael Tuck &  
Sons' Christmas and New Year cards.  
These are of a very high standard of art  
and are of these cards, which "has been attained  
by the employment of precious metals of every  
shade, and by the use of the most delicate  
work, the judicious blending of the two pro-  
ducing a beautiful and delicate result. Our  
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## LATE TELEGRAMS.

The following telegrams are taken from the *London Standard*:-

**THE IRISH QUESTION.**  
 London, 6th December.  
 Mr. John Morley, speaking at Newcastle upon Tyne, said that notwithstanding the enormous difficulty Government had experienced, there was every reason to hope that the scheme which had been drafted for Home Rule would be acceptable alike to Great Britain and Ireland.

**THE PANAMA CANAL.**  
 London, 6th December.  
 The French Government, yielding to the pressure brought to bear upon them by the Committee of Enquiry in the Panama Canal, have decided to hold an autopsy on the body of Baron Reinach and also to give the Committee judicial power.

**THE TROOPING IN INDIA.**  
 London, 6th December.  
 In consequence of the few troops at the disposal of the British Government in the East, the British India steamer *Goorka* has been chartered by the authorities for the conveyance of troops to the East.

**THE VIOLENCE IN AFRICA.**  
 London, 6th December.  
 The statement of the *Daily Chronicle* regarding the telegraph line from Zambesi to Wadai is confirmed.

**THE PROSECUTION OF THE NEW COMPANY.**  
 London, 6th December.  
 The prosecution of the new company for laying a telegraph line from Zambesi to Wadai has been postponed for a month.

**THE TROOPING IN INDIA.**  
 London, 6th December.  
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## THE DISASTROUS FIRE AT OSAKA.

**TWO MILLS DESTROYED; GREAT LOSS OF LIFE.**  
 OSAKA, 26th December.  
 A terrible disaster, which recalls the catastrophe caused by the explosion of the Osaka Naikichi Mill at Osaka, has occurred to the Osaka Naikichi Kaisha's mill at Sangaya, Osaka, which was destroyed by fire, together with a large loss of human life.

The Osaka Naikichi Kaisha has three mills at Sangaya, two of which have been completely gutted, while the third, erected comparatively recently, has escaped. The cause of the disaster is not yet ascertained, but it is believed to have been caused by a fire in the engine-house.

Of the two mills destroyed, one was a building of three stories, and the other a two-story building. Between them they had about 26,000 mounds of cotton and preparation supplied by Messrs. Platt Brothers. As well known, Japanese cotton mills are continually being built, and the two mills, one for night and the other for day, about a quarter past four this morning, fire broke out in the top floor of the three-story building, caused, it is believed, by friction engendered by a mule tin roller, which set fire to some work on the floor, and spread with alarming rapidity. A stampede was at once made to the ground, and it is said that in the mad rush for life the staircases became jammed and many of the unfortunate people were crushed to death before the flames reached them. So great did the fire spread that the walls began to collapse before they were working in the lower stories knew what had happened, and many of them were killed by falling beams and bricks while endeavoring to escape.

Fire brigades were promptly on the scene, but were wholly unable to cope with a fire of such magnitude. The Osaka Naikichi Kaisha, the first building was a heap of ruins, and the adjoining mill, a one-story building, was next attacked by the flames and completely gutted in its turn. The effects of the disaster were, of course, however, in saving the remaining building, which, with the exception of the engine-house, which, as already stated, is slightly damaged.

The disaster, however, was not so fortunate. The two mills were separated from the mill by a small stream, and though they were distant about thirty yards from the building where the fire broke out, the fire spread to the mill by a strong wind, swept across the intervening space and destroyed three fire houses before the brigades could get control over it.

It is estimated that about one hundred and one hundred and twenty persons lost their lives in this configuration, while many others have been injured. The fire was extinguished between eight and ten minutes, and all the bodies were recovered. The bodies of the dead were recovered from the ruins, and it is believed that the bodies of the missing have been obtained by the fire boats of the flames and will not be discovered.

The Osaka Naikichi Kaisha, of which Mr. Matsunaga is president, is the largest cotton-spinning company in Osaka, having in its three mills about 40,000 spindles. How the disaster is likely to affect the cotton industry is not known, whether the building is insured, but it is said that the project of rebuilding is already being discussed, and that before many months are over the competition takes something of an international character, and because there has been so much talk of the pipes being manufactured in Japan. Some of the firms are said to be competing for the work, and it is said that the competition is very keen.

## TENDERS FOR THE TOKYO WATER WORKS.

The tenders for supplying iron pipes for the Tokyo Water Works have been opened, and the figures are now known. They excite more than usual interest, as the competition takes something of an international character, and because there has been so much talk of the pipes being manufactured in Japan. Some of the firms are said to be competing for the work, and it is said that the competition is very keen.

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## COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

**WEDNESDAY, 26th DECEMBER.**  
**CLOSING QUOTATIONS.**  
**EXCHANGE.**

London, 26th December.  
 Telegraphic Transfer, 2 1/2  
 Bank Bill, on demand, 2 1/2  
 Bank Bill, at 30 days sight, 2 1/2  
 Bank Bill, at 60 days sight, 2 1/2  
 Bank Bill, at 90 days sight, 2 1/2  
 Bank Bill, at 120 days sight, 2 1/2  
 Bank Bill, at 150 days sight, 2 1/2  
 Bank Bill, at 180 days sight, 2 1/2  
 Bank Bill, at 210 days sight, 2 1/2  
 Bank Bill, at 240 days sight, 2 1/2  
 Bank Bill, at 270 days sight, 2 1/2  
 Bank Bill, at 300 days sight, 2 1/2  
 Bank Bill, at 330 days sight, 2 1/2  
 Bank Bill, at 360 days sight, 2 1/2  
 Bank Bill, at 390 days sight, 2 1/2  
 Bank Bill, at 420 days sight, 2 1/2  
 Bank Bill, at 450 days sight, 2 1/2  
 Bank Bill, at 480 days sight, 2 1/2  
 Bank Bill, at 510 days sight, 2 1/2  
 Bank Bill, at 540 days sight, 2 1/2  
 Bank Bill, at 570 days sight, 2 1/2  
 Bank Bill, at 600 days sight, 2 1/2  
 Bank Bill, at 630 days sight, 2 1/2  
 Bank Bill, at 660 days sight, 2 1/2  
 Bank Bill, at 690 days sight, 2 1/2  
 Bank Bill, at 720 days sight, 2 1/2  
 Bank Bill, at 750 days sight, 2 1/2  
 Bank Bill, at 780 days sight, 2 1/2  
 Bank Bill, at 810 days sight, 2 1/2  
 Bank Bill, at 840 days sight, 2 1/2  
 Bank Bill, at 870 days sight, 2 1/2  
 Bank Bill, at 900 days sight, 2 1/2  
 Bank Bill, at 930 days sight, 2 1/2  
 Bank Bill, at 960 days sight, 2 1/2  
 Bank Bill, at 990 days sight, 2 1/2  
 Bank Bill, at 1020 days sight, 2 1/2  
 Bank Bill, at 1050 days sight, 2 1/2  
 Bank Bill, at 1080 days sight, 2 1/2  
 Bank Bill, at 1110 days sight, 2 1/2  
 Bank Bill, at 1140 days sight, 2 1/2  
 Bank Bill, at 1170 days sight, 2 1/2  
 Bank Bill, at 1200 days sight, 2 1/2  
 Bank Bill, at 1230 days sight, 2 1/2  
 Bank Bill, at 1260 days sight, 2 1/2  
 Bank Bill, at 1290 days sight, 2 1/2  
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 Bank Bill, at 1800 days sight, 2 1/2  
 Bank Bill, at 1830 days sight, 2 1/2  
 Bank Bill, at 1860 days sight, 2 1/2  
 Bank Bill, at 1890 days sight, 2 1/2  
 Bank Bill, at 1920 days sight, 2 1/2  
 Bank Bill, at 1950 days sight, 2 1/2  
 Bank Bill, at 1980 days sight, 2 1/2  
 Bank Bill, at 2010 days sight, 2 1/2  
 Bank Bill, at 2040 days sight, 2 1/2  
 Bank Bill, at 2070 days sight, 2 1/2  
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 Bank Bill, at 2160 days sight, 2 1/2  
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 Bank Bill, at 2220 days sight, 2 1/2  
 Bank Bill, at 2250 days sight, 2 1/2  
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 Bank Bill, at 2370 days sight, 2 1/2  
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 Bank Bill, at 3120 days sight, 2 1/2  
 Bank Bill, at 3150 days sight, 2 1/2  
 Bank Bill, at 3180 days sight, 2 1/2  
 Bank Bill, at 3210 days sight, 2 1/2  
 Bank Bill, at 3240 days sight, 2 1/2  
 Bank Bill, at 3270 days sight, 2 1/2  
 Bank Bill, at 3300 days sight, 2 1/2  
 Bank Bill, at 3330 days sight, 2 1/2  
 Bank Bill, at 3360 days sight, 2 1/2  
 Bank Bill, at 3390 days sight, 2 1/2  
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